

## Letter from Alexander Melville Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 24, with transcript

London, May 24th, (No envelope) My dear Aleck,

It is impossible to answer your question. You are not in a position to name terms. If terms were proposed to you, which would make it worth your while to decide on an experimental session in Glasgow; or if any definite terms were proposed to you on condition of your going to Glasgow, you would have a material for forming a judgment. But in the meantime you have nothing to guide you. You certainly could not live on the profits of the little boy's board, and pay desirable lodgings out of his fee. And the necessity of being "almost constantly" with him would preclude you from pushing yourself forward as you would require to do in Glasgow. In my judgment the scheme is thoroughly impracticable as it presents itself in the meantime. I am glad to see the testimonial which you have obtained from Miss Gregory. By all means get your name in full inserted in all such documents. I am very sorry to see the state into which you have got your health, and the imprudence which makes you still put it in jeopardy by voluntary extra work. There seems more prospect of your being laid up in hospital than of your commencing work in Glasgow or anywhere else on your own account. Do have patience and defer the worry of what to do till you can consider the question calmly at home. Mamma is still in Edinburgh and will probably be so till the middle of next week. Ted joins me in love and Louisa and Mary 2 return you greetings. Write again soon.

Your affectionate father, Alex. Melville Bell.